

Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.



“Good evening! My name is Ben. I’ll be your server tonight,” the waiter said brightly. 1

“Hi, Ben. We’ll be your customers this evening.” Ali imitated the waiter’s cheery tone. 2

“Would you like to hear about our specials?” Without waiting for an answer, Ben began to recite the list he had repeated so many times already that evening. “We have a vegetarian frittata made of farm-fresh eggs, grilled mushrooms and roasted peppers . . . .” 3

“That’s enough, Ben,” interrupted Dana. “We know what we want. We had twenty minutes to look at the menu while we waited for a table. First, can you please bring us both a ginger ale? No ice.” 4

Ali shook his head. “I’d rather have a coffee. There were so many customers waiting in your front entrance that we had to wait outside *in the cold*. Why so busy, Ben?” Ali asked. 5

“Well, it’s 7:00 on a Saturday night. We’re usually full by 6:00. I’m sorry you had to wait but I’ll do what I can to bring your food quickly. Shall I finish taking your order now? So far, we have one ginger ale, no ice, and one coffee.” 6

“Actually, Ben, I’ll change that ginger ale to a hot chocolate.” 7

“Coming up! And to eat?” 8

“We’ll be sharing an order of fries.” 9

“That’s it? You waited twenty minutes in the cold to order *one* plate of fries?” There was a brief pause. Then Ben returned to his waiter’s voice. “Very good. I’ll place your order right away.” 10

Dana and Ali smiled as Ben left their table. 11

The restaurant owner gestured to Ben, calling him over. “What’s going on with those two? They insisted on waiting for a table in your section,” she told him. 12

“They’re my younger brother and sister,” Ben explained, rolling his eyes in exasperation. 13

**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** Which statement was most likely spoken before the events in this selection took place?
- a “I keep forgetting to tell people about our specials,” said Ben.
  - b “This restaurant is too busy. Let’s go somewhere else,” said Ali.
  - c “No, thanks. We’d rather wait for a table in that section,” said Dana.
  - d “We’re not usually this crowded on Saturday,” said the restaurant owner.
- 2** When Ben recites the list in paragraph 3, he shows that he
- a has memorized the information.
  - b is confused by so many choices.
  - c does not care what his customers want.
  - d must speak loudly in the busy restaurant.
- 3** What is the main purpose of the italics in paragraphs 5 and 10?
- a identify direct speech
  - b indicate who is talking
  - c highlight unusual words
  - d emphasize tone of voice
- 4** Who is speaking in paragraph 7?
- a Ali
  - b Ben
  - c Dana
  - d the restaurant owner

Written Answers

**5** Explain why the final sentence is an effective conclusion to the selection. Use relevant and specific information from the selection to support your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

---

**6** Explain whether or not Ben is a good waiter. Use specific details and examples from the selection to support your explanation.

---

---

---

---

---

---

Rough Notes

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*